



For Immediate Release

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**CHA to Recognize Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center's
Scott Ellner, DO, MHCM, FACS, as a Healthcare Hero**

WALLINGFORD – At its 97th Annual Meeting on Tuesday, June 30, 2015, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) will recognize Scott Ellner, DO, MHCM, FACS, President of the Saint Francis Medical Group, Vice Chairman of the Department of Surgery, and Director of Surgical Quality at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, as a 2015 Healthcare Hero. He was nominated for this award by Fiona Phelan.

For six years, Dr. Ellner has been at the forefront of the regional and national charge to improve patient safety and surgical outcomes. His work has led to lower infection rates, faster recoveries, shorter hospitalizations – and has saved lives.

Dr. Ellner established the Saint Francis Surgical Safety Task Force, which has recorded an impressive decrease in adverse outcomes in the OR. He also is the founding member of the Connecticut Surgical Quality Collaborative, an initiative that brings together 22 Connecticut hospitals and three state medical groups to improve patient safety in all surgeries, and has taken the lead in securing grants to help fund and coordinate the training of surgical teams at the participating hospitals.

In 2013, he was named by Becker's Hospital Review one of the 50 Experts Leading the Field of Patient Safety. In 2015, he was the inaugural recipient of the Roger Schenke Award from the American Association for Physician Leadership, which honors those who have exhibited innovation in creating education or training programs to advance physician leadership and improve healthcare.

CHA's Healthcare Heroes award was developed in 2002 to celebrate the invaluable contributions of healthcare workers, both to their field and to the community at large. Now in its 14th year, the presentation of the Healthcare Heroes awards has become a highlight of CHA's Annual Meeting.



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About CHA

The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut's hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut's hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, community health, health equity, and hospital reimbursement.